

NATIONAL CONGRESS BULLETIN

Published by
THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS
1201 Sixteenth Street N W Washington D C

VOL. II

NOVEMBER, 1934

NO. 5

Homemaking Work to be Stressed

The promotion of child welfare in the home will be stressed by the National Congress of Parents and Teachers during the administration of Mrs. B. F. Langworthy, National President, who says:

"During the past few years, the National Congress has applied most of its efforts toward helping the schools, and toward actually keeping them open in certain sections, where schools were faced with the possibility of closing because of lack of funds. Now for the next three years, we must turn our attention to the home—to make it the center of joy and happiness for the child."

Carrying out this thought, the theme of the 1935 National Convention, in Miami, Florida, will be "Home—the Index of National Life," and plans are being formulated for the compilation of a sourcebook on the home.

Membership Grows

Congress membership continues its steady growth: Reports received in the National Office show that the total paid membership of the National Congress for the first quarter of the fiscal year is almost one-fourth greater than for the same period of 1933. The second quarter, which began October 1, already shows an increase of almost 10 percent over the total of last year's second quarter.

Our Public Schools

Our Public Schools is now available in a heavy yellow paper binding at 25c. a copy. A blue cloth-bound edition is also available at 50c. a copy. Plans are under way to place this book on sale in bookstores over the country. "This is the only book written on the subject of public education which I can recommend without reservation for laymen and professional educators," declares one superintendent.



Mrs. Simon Lapham, Providence, Rhode Island, Treasurer, National Congress of Parents and Teachers.

PARENT EDUCATION Radio Schedule

N.B.C. RED NETWORK

Thursdays, 5:00 to 5:30 p.m., E.S.T.
Sponsored by the National Congress of Parents and Teachers and the University of Chicago.

December 6

The Parent's Part in Education—Wilbur L. Beauchamp, Assistant Professor of Education, University of Chicago.

December 13

What the Modern Parent Expects of the School—Dr. Ruth Andrus, Head of Division of Child Development, University of State of New York, Albany.

December 20

Individual Differences in Ability and Personality—Frank N. Freeman, Professor of Educational Psychology, University of Chicago.

December 27

The Continuation of Education into Adult Life—Lyman Bryson, Teachers College, Columbia University, New York City.

Radio Skit

"All in a Dean's Day" will be presented by the National Association of Deans of Women, Saturday, November 24, 5:30 p. m., over the red network of the N. B. C.

Round-Up Reports Show Progress

The 1934 Summer Round-Up of the Children brought to light and remedied health defects in the greatest number of children since the Round-Up was inaugurated in 1925, it is indicated by reports received by the National Congress of Parents and Teachers since the campaign closed on November 1.

Statistics compiled from reports of approximately 6,000 local units participating in the Round-Up this year will be available in tabulated form about March 1, 1935.

Material for the 1935 campaign—plan of procedure, campaign requirements, registration blank, procedure for registration and suggestions for the organization of local campaigns, examination form, and leaflet—is now available and will be distributed by state Summer Round-Up chairmen. A new examination form, including space for the child's past health record in order that this may form the basis of the child's school health record, has been printed, and the leaflet "Why Your Child Needs a Health Examination" has been rewritten.

Exhibits Suggested

The program suggests that exhibits of helpful material be displayed at the time of the Round-Up examination. It urges that the co-operation of home economics teachers or county home demonstration agents be secured in arranging, in connection with the exhibit, a display of suitable foods for growing children, and that during the week of the Round-Up, local librarians be requested to display at the public library books of interest to parents.

Early Registration Urged

Local units are urged to make early plans for the work and to allow at least three weeks between the time of the forwarding of the registration to the state chairman and the date set for the examination.

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Founders Day Material

Two new Founders Day playlets, "The Child Four Square" and "Reminiscence," are available from the National Office. "The Gift Bearers" has been revised by Mrs. A. H. Reeve and will be found especially fitted for presentation by large associations or councils. The pageants are five cents each or six for 25 cents.

The National Parent-Teacher Magazine will publish three articles by Mrs. Winnifred Rugg, presenting phases of early Congress history, in the December, January, and February issues.

Among the Founders Day songs, which may be obtained from the National Office, none is more beautiful than the "Mothers Hymn," the music of which is by Helen Grinnell Mears.

Mrs. Fred M. Raymond, Acting Founders Day Chairman, requests that the copies be sent her of outstanding program material which may be presented in your state this coming February. It is largely from this source that new playlets and ceremonies will be chosen for another year.

New Pamphlets

Some Educational Activities for the Young Child in the Home. This is pamphlet No. 51 and is issued by the Office of Education of the United States Department of the Interior. It is for sale by the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C., price 5c.

A Tabular Summary of State Laws relating to Public Aid to Children in Their Own Homes in effect January 1, 1934. For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C., price 10c.

Welcome

New State Presidents

Indiana—Mrs. L. G. Hughes, 1728 Cross Drive, Indianapolis.
Minnesota—Mrs. A. L. Lathers, 2136 Vermilion Road, Duluth.
Nebraska—Mrs. Percy F. Powell, 3519 Cuming St., Omaha.
North Dakota—Mrs. J. W. Snyder, 205 South 14th St., Fargo.
Pennsylvania—Mrs. Howard H. Hall, 910 Poplar St., Newberry.
West Virginia—Mrs. Ruth Pell Miller, 1056 Euclid Place, Huntington.

Wanted: Samples!

The National Office constantly receives requests for samples of material produced by states, districts, and local units. Please send us copies of any publications, printed, mimeographed or typed, which would be interesting to other groups. We especially need the following types:

Local programs
News bulletins
Scripts of radio broadcast

Greetings to New Readers

Fall elections have added to our list of NATIONAL CONGRESS BULLETIN readers a large number of new state board members, to whom we send greetings and a word of explanation about the purpose of this publication:

The NATIONAL CONGRESS BULLETIN is published each month for state board members, to supply them with current information about the activities of the National Congress and the state branches. The BULLETIN is mailed direct to individual state board members who pay the mailing cost of 20 cents a year; or where this is not done, copies for each board member are sent to the state office or state president for distribution.

Some states budget a lump sum to cover the direct mailing cost for all members of the state board; others take up a collection, each board member paying his own 20 cents.

To insure prompt delivery, the BULLETIN should be mailed direct from the National Office to individual board members, if it can be arranged.

Notice

Although publicity recordbooks will NOT be exhibited at the 1935 National Convention, local units are advised to continue compiling publicity recordbooks or procedure books. Such scrapbooks are always exceedingly helpful to new officers and chairmen, and they form an invaluable part of the parent-teacher lore which the bookshelf of every Congress unit should contain.

National Mothersingers

Miss Mayme E. Irons, National Chairman, Committee on Music, announces the number to be sung at the National Convention at Miami, Florida, next Spring for the National Mothersingers Chorus. These numbers are to be learned and memorized for the Convention Chorus:

1. Lo, a Voice to Heaven—Bortniansky. No. 1079—E. C. Schirmer—3 pt. SSA 16c. 221 Columbus Ave., Boston, Mass.

2. With the Wind and Rain in Your Hair—Edwards—Rieger. No. 7573—G. Schirmer—3 pt. SSA 12c.

3. Russian Peasant Lullaby—Christine Burnham—No. 1916—Boston Music Co.—4 pt. SSAA—15c.

4. Morning Hymn—Henschel—No. 694—Boston Music Co.—15c.

Please publish the list as given, using publisher's name and publication number so that all singers will buy and prepare the proper arrangement.

These numbers may be had through any of the following music houses:

E. C. Schirmer, 221 Columbus Ave., Boston, Mass.

Gamble Hinged Music Co., 228 S. Wabash Ave., Chicago, Illinois.

G. Schirmer, Inc., 3 East 43rd St., New York City or Cleveland, O. Jenkins Music Co., Kansas City, Missouri.

Chas. E. Wells, 1616-26 California St., Denver, Colorado.

Woods Music Co., Seattle, Washington.

Stoner Piano Co., 914 Walnut St., Des Moines, Iowa.

Lists for fathersinger, teachersinger, and mixed chorus groups, have been sent to state music chairmen.

Is A Pin Needed?

Should the Congress have a small inexpensive, celluloid P.T.A. membership pin, similar to that used by the Red Cross, to be given to every member who pays dues? A number of local units think so. If a sufficient number of units wish to use such a pin, it can be manufactured and distributed from the National Office at comparatively low cost. Congress workers are invited to make known their wishes on this subject.

More Notes from the National Board Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of the National Board of Managers at Niagara Falls yield these items, crowded out of our October number:

Study Groups

In a discussion of study groups the Board emphasized the following points:

1. Any association may have study groups to suit the needs of its members.
2. A study group is a *part* of an association and reports to the association.
3. The leader is the liaison officer between the study group and the association.
4. No single study group should be recommended to the exclusion of other study groups.

Relief of Unemployed Teachers

The National President was authorized to cooperate with the U. S. Office of Education, National Education Association, and National Council of State Superintendents to the end that relief for unemployed teachers may be included in the relief program of the F.E.R.A. for the current year 1934-35.

1935 Resolutions

Suggestions on tentative resolutions on health were presented by Mrs. Chas. H. Cooley, of New Jersey, Chairman, Subcommittee on Health. Preventive medical treatment, public health measures, protective legislation, and the need of stressing for both children of all ages and adults periodical health examinations beginning with children of preschool age, were among the recommended topics suggested for the 1935 Resolutions of the Congress. Other resolutions on health will be welcomed by the Committee.

Magazine Circulation Increases

The circulation of the new *National Parent-Teacher Magazine* is increasing rapidly and every mail is bringing favorable comments concerning the new name, new format, and new editorial features. Because

Advisory Committees

Advisory committees for the divisions of the National Office have been appointed as follows:

Education Division

Mrs. William J. Hayes, Chairman
Dr. William McKinley Robinson
Mrs. Raymond Binford
Dr. Adelaide S. Baylor

Information Division

Mrs. A. H. Reeve, Chairman
Mrs. J. K. Pettengill
Mr. Howard V. Funk
Dr. A. F. Harman

Publicity Division

Mrs. W. H. Buhlig, Chairman
Mrs. E. G. Byrne
Mrs. Bruce Carr Jones
Mrs. Joseph E. Morcombe

The Publications Division and the Summer Round-Up Division will continue their advisory committees as follows:

Publications Division

Mrs. Frederick M. Hosmer, Chairman
Mrs. E. C. Mason
Mrs. J. K. Pettengill
Mrs. Raymond Binford
Mrs. Emmet C. Stopher
Mrs. John E. Hayes
Miss Julia Wright Merrill

Summer Round-Up Division

Dr. Lillian R. Smith, Chairman
Mrs. B. F. Langworthy
Dr. W. W. Bauer
Miss Eleanor P. Brown
Dr. Carl E. Buck
Chief, Children's Bureau
Dr. Hugh S. Cumming
Dr. William De Kleine
Dr. Frances P. Gaw
Dr. Margaret Irving Handy
Miss Alma C. Haupt
Dr. Clara E. Hayes
Mrs. William Hayes
Dr. William A. Howe
Dr. Howard H. Mitchell
Dr. Lon W. Morrey
Miss Mary E. Murphy
Mr. J. E. Rogers
Dr. James Frederick Rogers
Dr. C. C. Slemons
Dr. George S. Stevenson
Miss Louise Strachan
Miss Betty C. Wright

Drama Consultant

If you are coaching amateur plays or are a member of a group of amateur players, you are constantly interested in new plays. Probably you are most interested in new non-royalty plays.

If so, we suggest that you write to Mrs. Mabel F. Hobbs, National Recreation Association, 315 Fourth Avenue, New York City. As the drama consultant of the National Recreation Association, Mrs. Hobbs sits at the crossroads of the amateur theater in the United States. She conducts a clearing house on the latest and best plays and on the most effective and inexpensive ways to produce them. Be sure to answer these questions in framing your letters:

"Do I prefer one-act, two-act, or three-act plays?"

"Must I have a non-royalty play or can I afford to pay a royalty?"

"How much acting experience has my group had?"

"What facilities have I for producing plays?"

"What plays have I found successful?"

If these points are covered in your letter, Mrs. Hobbs can send you play lists checked to meet your particular needs.

Inclose five cents to meet the cost of handling the lists.

Vocational Convention

A parent-teacher section meeting will be held at the American Vocational Association convention in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Friday morning, December 7.

Mrs. J. K. Pettengill, First Vice-president of the National Congress, will preside, and Dr. Adelaide S. Baylor, National Chairman of Homemaking, will speak on "Homemaking as an Art."

Home economics specialists and others who will participate in the program are Miss Adah Hess, Springfield, Illinois, Miss Margaret Edwards, Greensboro, North Carolina, Miss Florence Jenkins, Augusta, Maine, Mrs. H. H. Hall, State President, Pennsylvania Congress, and Miss Anna Green, Pittsburgh, Penna.

enthusiasm is translating itself into increased receipts, the Magazine will publish twelve issues a year instead of 10. The subscription price will remain the same—\$1 a year, or a 3-year subscription for \$2. As the circulation increases, further improvements are contemplated in the very near future.

News from State Branches

Alabama A study of the physical and health education conditions in the homes, schools, and communities of Alabama is being conducted by the Alabama Congress of Parents and Teachers, in cooperation with the physical and health education section of the Department of Education of the state of Alabama. The P.T.A. is requested to begin this study in September and mark down their answers to questions concerning the facilities for play and recreation in the community. In March they are asked to check up on the conditions which then exist to see if they have been improved.

California True to its tradition of child welfare, the tenth district of the California Congress of Parents and Teachers for the third summer assumed the responsibility of providing food and milk for the needy children of Los Angeles. Following a survey by the Board of Education it was disclosed that 11,000 children were dependent on the parent-teacher association for food during the summer. Milk is also delivered to the homes of children who are unable to come to the centers.

The amount necessary to carry on this huge task was estimated to be \$70,000. The County Supervisors allocated \$16,000; the City Council, upon recommendation of the Water and Power Department voted \$20,000; the Community Chest budgeted \$7,200. This left approximately \$26,800 for the Tenth District to provide.

Hawaii In the schools where various languages are used by the parents, the P.T.A. is divided into sub-groups according to the language spoken, each group having a chairman who speaks English and the language of the group.

The Hawaii parent-teacher associations assisted in the recent campaign for diphtheria immunization, giving publicity to the importance of assisting physicians and nurses and having two members on duty each day at each school.

Idaho The Warden of the Idaho State Penitentiary recently wrote the following letter to the Franklin Parent-Teacher Association:

May we take this opportunity to thank your local unit for sending us each month the *National Parent-Teacher Magazine*.

We find that your publication is filled with interesting information for the young men here, and is especially interesting to the fathers whose children are receiving better attention through your efforts.

Thank you for your valued contribution.

Indiana "Citizenship through Education" was the theme of the 11th Annual Poster Contest, sponsored by the Indiana Congress in cooperation with the Bureau of Visual Education of the Indiana University Extension Division. This theme was selected because it was believed that the present crisis in education would be better appreciated by the boys and girls affected if they participated in some visual means of emphasizing the subject.

Kentucky The members of the executive board of the Louisville Council of Parents and Teachers are sponsoring a series of "Know Thy Neighbor" parties for the purpose of promoting acquaintance between parent-teacher workers.

Louisiana The Shreveport Council is offering three prizes for the best posters on health to be sent to the state P.T.A. booth at the Louisiana state fair. Posters on other subjects and relating to other phases of P.T.A. work will be received and exhibited. The prizes offered are a Congress Library, the *National Parent-teacher Magazine*, and the state bulletin.

The publicity chairman of Louisiana has suggested that the NATIONAL CONGRESS BULLETIN be mailed, at the district expense, to each district publicity chairman in the state, and that news contained in the BULLETIN be released locally in each community by the district chairman.

Michigan At the state board meeting, eight district chairmen committed themselves to a plan for promoting council publicity classes, using the National Correspondence Course on Publicity and the *Publicity Manual* as a basis of study and training.

Nebraska To ascertain the views of prospective candidates for the Nebraska legislature on matters affecting the state school system, the Nebraska Congress has sent to them a questionnaire containing these inquiries:

1. Do you favor equal educational opportunities for the girls and boys of all the people?
2. Will you support a new or revised system of taxation that will more equitably distribute the necessary state tax load?
3. Will you support adequate appropriations for state educational institutions?
4. Will you favor reasonable methods of re-districting or enlarging school districts whereby school standards may be maintained with economies?
5. As an emergency measure, are you in favor of state and national cooperation in keeping the public schools open?

New Mexico Mrs. S. P. Nanninga, President, New Mexico Congress of Parents and Teachers, has sent a letter to her local presidents asking them to cooperate with their county superintendents in collecting a fund for the purchase of books for needy children who have not been supplied. The county superintendent can tell whether books are needed in the county, which books are needed, and how many are needed. As the free textbook fund is inadequate to supply all children with texts, Mrs. Nanninga requests that those who can afford to buy texts should do so until all needy children have been supplied.

New York While the "highlights" of the 38th Annual Convention of the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers held at Long Beach, Long Island, October 1-4, were the attendance of the National President, Mrs. B. F. Langworthy, at most sessions, and her address on "Transmutation" to the delegate body, the members of the state Congress were greatly interested in the presentation of the principles underlying budget-making, by the chairman of the directors of finance, and of the planning of a local budget by one of the directors. The chairman, Mrs. Donald C. MacDonell, considers the budget as reflecting the work of the entire state Congress, and, with the other finance directors, has given much thought to the comparative expense of the different phases of Congress activity. Their careful study and planning together with activity resulting in a larger membership is in turn reflected in the net surplus of \$551.89 for the year 1933-34.

North Carolina An effort is being made by the six district presidents of the North Carolina Congress, to place 1,000 copies of *Our Public Schools* in each district. This is included in the district goals in the September state bulletin.

Mrs. W. B. Aycock, President of the North Carolina Congress of Parents and Teachers, writes:

"I plan to give *Our Public Schools* prominent space in my message in the state bulletin and to present it to all civic clubs and organizations whenever possible. The district presidents will also do this. I have been asked to review it for all western North Carolina papers. We will also use this book for Open Forums to be put on by our citizenship chairman, beginning in the larger cities and possibly in the rural communities if practical. You may count on our very best efforts to place even more than our 6,000 copies if possible."